

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MADRID 04455 251839Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 DLOS-09 L-03 CG-00 DOTE-00  
EB-08 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 COME-00 JUSE-00  
DODE-00 SS-15 PA-01 IO-13 /079 W  
-----051090 251848Z /50  
P 251823Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4353  
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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COPENHAGEN FOR REGFISHATT

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EFIS, US, SP  
SUBJECT: SEIZURE OF SPANISH F/V COSTA DE NORUEGA FOR  
FISHERIES VIOLATION

REF: STATE 102264; MADRID 4326; MADRID 4217

1. INFORMATION PROVIDED IN STATE 102264 (EXCEPT FOR  
FYI PORTIONS) WAS PASSED TO SPANISH (DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
OF INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES RELATIONS GONZALEZ ALONSO)  
ON APRIL 22. GONZALEZ ALONSO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION  
AND TOLD EMBOFF THAT GOS WAS STILL TRYING TO COOL DOWN  
SPANISH FISHERMEN AND CONVINCE THEM NOT TO MAKE PUBLIC  
ISSUE OUT OF SEIZURE. EMBASSY ALSO INFORMED MINISTRY  
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF STATUS OF CASE IN VIEW OF FACT  
THAT UNDER SECRETARY SOLANO HAD RAISED IT WITH THE  
AMBASSADOR (MADRID 4326).

2. THUS FAR, ONLY PRESS ITEM ON SEIZURE (EXCEPT FOR  
BRIEF NOTE AT TIME INCIDENT OCCURRED) APPEARED IN NEW  
MADRID ECONOMIC DAILY "CINCO DIAS (FIVE DAYS)" ON  
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APRIL 25. THREE PARAGRAPH ARTICLE ENTITLED "ACT OF  
PIRACY" IS INCLUDED WITH THREE OTHER FISHING ITEMS  
UNDER LEADER ANNOUNCING THAT FISHING ACCORD WITH EEC  
IS "PRACTICALLY CONCLUDED". ACCORDING TO ARTICLE  
SEIZURE OF "COSTA DE NORUEGA" FOR "FISHING WITH NETS  
OF A SIZE NOT AUTHORIZED BY U.S." WAS CONSIDERED AN  
ACT OF PIRACY BY SPANISH FISHERMEN "GIVEN THE FORM

IN WHICH IT TOOK PLACE". ARTICLE GOES ON TO STATE THAT FISHERMEN'S VERSION OF SEIZURE, "WHICH COINCIDES WITH INFORMATION DISSEMINATED BY US PRESS", IS THAT TWO US NAVY FRIGATES INTERVENED AND THAT DOZEN "MARINES" BOARDED SPANISH VESSEL, LOWERED SPANISH FLAG AND RAISED US COLORS. SPANISH FISHERMEN REPORTEDLY STATED THAT "A SHIP IS TERRITORY OF COUNTRY WHOSE FLAG IT FLIES" AND THEREFORE SEIZURE "COULD BE CONSIDERED" AN ACT OF PIRACY.

3. COMMENT: INCIDENT HAS SO FAR ATTRACTED LITTLE PUBLIC ATTENTION AND, AS WE HAVE STATED, GOS OFFICIALS HAVE SAID THEY ARE TRYING TO PREVENT ITS BEING TURNED INTO BILATERAL PROBLEM. ALTHOUGH ARTICLE SUMMARIZED ABOVE CONTAINS SOME INACCURACY (ONLY VIOLATION MENTIONED WAS OVERSIZED MESH SIZE), EMBASSY DOES NOT PLAN TO RAISE MATTER WITH PRESS OR GOS UNLESS ASKED, IN WHICH CASE WE WILL USE GUIDANCE PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED. HOPEFULLY INCIDENT WILL SIMPLY FADE AWAY, BUT WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS. STABLER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FISHERIES, SHIP DETENTION, COSTA DE NORUEGA F/V  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978MADRID04455  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780177-0017  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 7a0b49a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 102264, 78 MADRID 4326, 78 MADRID 4217  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2860919  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SEIZURE OF SPANISH F/V COSTA DE NORUEGA FOR FISHERIES VIOLATION  
**TAGS:** EFIS, US, SP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/7a0b49a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014